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Analyzing the Impact of Science Funding Programs on the Evolution of Research Fields

Analyzing the impact of funding programs requires understanding multiple sources of information including proposal awards and scientific publications. Traditional author network analysis provides results on the direct relationship between funded programs and the published research articles. However, such analysis may not capture how ideas proposed in the projects spread and diffuse in the research fields. In this poster, we demonstrate our content-based approach that visually analyzes research trends and further permits interactive exploration for users to correlate particular funding programs with major changes in research activities. This approach is applied to published research output, intellectual products such as patents, and commentaries on relevant technological developments and applications. As a result, the intellectual, practical, and technological impacts of funding programs can be discovered, studied, and interrelated.